

DEF 5/105

187005

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

The circulation of this paper has been strictly limited.

It is issued for the personal use of.....

TOP SECRET

Copy No. 26

COPIES OF THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT BE MADE WITHOUT THE  
AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY, CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEEC.O.S.(60)21327TH JULY, 1960.

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

BERLIN CONTINGENCY PLANNINGNote by the War Office  
(MO 1/P(60)349) dated 26th July, 1960Introduction

1. General NORSTAD instructed C-in-C BAOR to develop :-
  - (a) plans for the initial probe of Soviet intentions (FREE STYLE).
  - (b) necessary orders to cover the composition, assembly, logistic support, training and general tactical concept of the more elaborate operation (TRADE WIND) to restore Autobahn access to BERLIN.

2. General NORSTAD has approved the detailed plans produced by C-in-C BAOR, forwarded them to the Tripartite Ministries of Defence, and asked that these Ministries prepare the necessary National supporting plans for the more elaborate operation (TRADE WIND). The orders for both these operations have been forwarded to the War Office for examination and report.

Aim

3. The aim of this note is to examine and report on C-in-C BAOR's orders for these two plans.

COS(59)173

COS.535/21/14/60

COS(60)169

COS(60)187

TOP SECRET

DEFE 5/105

187005

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

## TOP SECRET

- 2 -

Comment

4. The Initial Ground Probe<sup>d</sup> (codename FREE STYLE) consists of a Tripartite Test Convoy which, although it may be supported by armed personnel in APCs or Armoured Cars, will withdraw if it is physically obstructed. The more elaborate force (Codename TRADE WIND, Phase I Assembly and Training, Phase II Move to BERLIN), will consist of a Tripartite Ground Force of Battalion strength, which will be prepared to fight its way up the Autobahn.

It is suggested that in future to avoid confusion as to the meaning of the word 'probe', this term should be restricted to the first operation.

5. There are three issues which concern the Chiefs of Staff :-

- (a) Approval of the FREE STYLE orders<sup>e</sup> produced by C-in-C BAOR.
- (b) The preparation of necessary UNITED KINGDOM supporting plans for TRADE WIND, which is all that has at present been requested by General NORSTAD,<sup>f</sup> following approval by the Chiefs of Staff of the TRADE WIND orders produced by C-in-C BAOR.
- (c) The forwarding to General NORSTAD of any comments the Chiefs of Staff may wish to make at this stage on the general concept of the plans and their wider implications.

6. C-in-C BAOR's Orders for Operation FREE STYLE -

The orders for the assembly of the Force conform to General NORSTAD's instructions approved by the Chiefs of Staff and are agreed subject to para 8 below.

7. C-in-C BAOR's Orders for Operation TRADE WIND<sup>g</sup>

The orders for the assembly and training of the force conform to General NORSTAD's directive<sup>h</sup> and are agreed as a basis for any further planning, if this should prove necessary. However, the LIVE OAK Planning Team disagree on whether the Force should be allowed to leave the Autobahn. From the military point of view, if the force is restricted to the autobahn it will have even less chance of achieving its object.

Further Comments:

8. There is one matter concerning both these operations which requires clarification, namely the approximate time which it would take to launch the FREE STYLE Force and how soon after that the TRADE WIND Force could be launched.

General NORSTAD has estimated<sup>i</sup> that the initial Ground Probe (FREE STYLE) would take seven days to launch. The Chiefs of Staff noted this without comment. However, it could be argued that the initial probe would be of little use unless it could be launched immediately ground access along the Autobahn had been contricted.

- <sup>d</sup> COS(59)173                      E COS.535/21/4/60  
<sup>e</sup> COS(60)187                      = COS(59)292  
<sup>f</sup> COS(60)169

TOP SECRET

DEFE 5/105

187005

COPYRIGHT - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITHOUT PERMISSION

TOP SECRET

- 3 -

On the assumption that both operations FREE STYLE and TRADE WIND might be required as quickly as possible once access had been closed, it is suggested that General NORSTAD be invited to examine the minimum time which would be required to launch both FREE STYLE and TRADE WIND forces.

#### Wider Implications of the TRADE WIND Operation

9. One of the aims<sup>9</sup> of the more elaborate ground force operation is "to compel the Soviets to face the unmistakable imminence of general war".

10. The Chiefs of Staff have endorsed the views<sup>10</sup> that the Russians would be more likely to resort to passive measures such as the removal of the bridge over the EISE, or any other of the forty seven bridges between the frontier and BERLIN. In this event the force could not of itself restore access to BERLIN, nor would its obstruction in these circumstances provide the unmistakable imminence of general war; the probable result would be a military debacle.

11. It is now known<sup>11</sup> that the Germans favour an airlift as against an armed advance up the Autobahn, and in view of this coupled with our own misgivings about the proposed TRADE WIND Operation, it is recommended that the Chiefs of Staff should review their decision to approve the concept. It cannot be regarded as a serious military operation, and if physically blocked "fore and aft" would place the force in an ignominious position, from which it would be difficult to extricate it.

#### Recommendation

12. It is recommended that the Chiefs of Staff:-

- (a) Take note of C-in-C BAOR's orders for Operation FREE STYLE.
- (b) Inform C-in-C BAOR of their approval of his TRADE WIND orders and instruct him to develop any supporting plans, if necessary, in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence.
- (c) Inform General NORSTAD that they have so done, but at the same time:-
  - (i) Ask him to re-examine the minimum time which would be required to prepare both the FREE STYLE and TRADE WIND operations once the decision to launch them had been made.
  - (ii) Inform him that if operation TRADE WIND was ordered it would be militarily unsound to restrict the force to the Autobahn.
  - (iii) Inform him they are now firmly of the opinion that the implementation of the TRADE WIND operation as envisaged would be unlikely to achieve its aims and would probably result in a military debacle.

6 COS(59)199

1 JIC(60)110

1 FOTEL 614 of 15 Jun 60 from PONI to Foreign Office

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, S.W.1.

27TH JULY, 1960.

TOP SECRET